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Sollitt Construction Company Architectural Records 1923-1985 DADA 030

Title: Sollitt Construction Company Architectural Records

Creator: Sollitt Construction Company

Inclusive Dates: 1923-1985

Extent: 12.3 cu. ft.

Containers: 2 flat file drawers, 1 roll oversized drawings, 1 legal-size manuscript box

Language of Materials: Materials entirely in English.

Preferred Citation:

Sollitt Construction Company Architectural Records, Drawings and Documents Archive,
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Administrative History:

Biographical Note:

Sollitt Construction Company was founded in South Bend, Indiana, by Ralph Shannon Sollitt ca. 1920. Ralph Sollitt's father and grandfather had been successful general building contractors in Chicago, Ill. Ralph Sollitt was the vice president and general manager of the South Bend branch of the family business. The firm received many important commissions over the following decades, but went out of business ca. 1993. As of 2012, the George Sollitt Construction Company, based in Chicago, is still in operation.

Scope and Contents:

The collection contains 358 architectural working drawings and two sets of specifications for 11 buildings from the Sollitt Construction Co. of South Bend, Indiana, from 1923-85.

A variety of building types are represented: an apartment building, a retirement home, a government center, a church, a bank, a Masonic temple, a U.S. post office, two schools, and two industrial buildings. Most of the buildings are in northern Indiana (Elkhart, Ft. Wayne, Goshen, Marion) but projects in Anderson, Indianapolis, and Terre Haute are also included.

Sollitt Construction Co. presumably acted as contractor for all of the projects and designed four of them. Other designs are by K. M. Vitzthum and J. J. Burns, Austin & Shambleau, Hubert Miller, W. E. Russ, Guy Mahurin, Johnson Ritchhart & Assoc. with D. L. Collins, Smith-Voorhees-Jensen Assoc., and Sherbondy Associates.

The collection contains only a fraction of the firm's work. It consists of selections made in 1994 from a much larger body of Sollitt Company records--several hundred cubic feet, mostly drawings--stored temporarily in the Studebaker National Museum in South Bend. Most of the drawings were for large institutional and industrial commissions: schools, wastewater treatment plans, oil refineries, factories and factory additions. About half were Indiana commissions. The other half were in neighboring states: Michigan, Ohio, and Kentucky.

Conditions Governing Access:

This collection is open for research.

Copyright Notice: Legal title, copyright, and literary rights reside with Drawings and Documents Archive, Archives and Special Collections, Ball State University Libraries, Muncie, IN. All requests to publish or quote from manuscripts must be submitted to Drawings and Documents Archive.

Custodial History:

The Sollitt Construction Company Architectural Records were received by Drawings and Documents Archive as a donation from the Studebaker National Museum on 1994/2/3.

Accruals: No additions are expected.

Processing Information:

Collection processing completed

Finding aid created 1990/7/13 by Andrew R. Seager; revised 2011/11/1 by Julie Edwards; revised 2012/2/17 by Carol Street.

Arrangement:

The Sollitt Construction Company Architectural Records are arranged chronologically.

Collection Inventory:

<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 01	<i>Storage code(s)</i>	d++
<i>Project title</i>	State Bank of Goshen		
<i>Location</i>	Goshen, Elkhart Co., IN		
<i>Authorship, year</i>	K. M. Vitzthum & Co. (Vitzthum & Burns), archts., job 466; J. Scheitler (Chicago), assoc. dsgr. & eng.; Sollitt Construction Co., contractor; 1923		
<i>Records</i>	>> Working dwgs. / K. M. Vitzthum & Co.; 1923. -- 12 sheets: blueprint; 21 x 51 in.		
<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 02	<i>Storage code(s)</i>	d

<i>Project title</i>	Fourth Ward School, new building	
<i>Location</i>	Elkhart, Elkhart Co., IN	
<i>Authorship, year</i>	Hubert Miller, architect (Elkhart, Ind.), comm. 144; Sollitt Construction Co., contractor; 1926	
<i>Records</i>	>> Working dwgs. / Hubert Miller; 1926. -- 15 sheets: blueprint; 24 x 36 in.	
<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 03	<i>Storage code(s)</i> d
<i>Project title</i>	Masonic Temple	
<i>Location</i>	5th St. at Jefferson, Goshen, Elkhart Co., IN	
<i>Authorship, year</i>	E. R. Austin, N. R. Shambleau, and G. T. Nethercutt, architects, job 1017; Sollitt Construction Co., contractor, job 554; ca. 1927	
<i>Records</i>	>> Working dwgs. / Austin, Shambleau, Nethercutt; ca. 1927. -- 13 sheets: blueprint; 24 x 36 in.	
<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 04	<i>Storage code(s)</i> d
<i>Project title</i>	Piccadilly Court	
<i>Location</i>	Pennsylvania at 16th, Indianapolis, Marion Co., IN	
<i>Authorship, year</i>	W. E. Russ, architect, comm. 2614; Sollitt Construction Co., contractor, job 556; 1927	
<i>Records</i>	>> Working dwgs. / W. E. Russ; 1927. -- 31 sheets: blueprint; 21 x 31 in.	
<i>Notes</i>	Mr. Turpie Smith, client	
<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 05	<i>Storage code(s)</i> d, bx
<i>Project title</i>	U. S. Post Office and Courthouse	
<i>Location</i>	Harrison St., Fort Wayne, Allen Co., IN	
<i>Authorship, year</i>	Guy Mahurin, architect, file 273; Morris & O'Connor (New York), consulting architects; Sollitt Construction Co., contractor, job 808; 1931	
<i>Records</i>	A. Working dwgs. / Mahurin, Morris, & O'Conner; 1931. -- 60 sheets: blueprint; 28 x 40 in. and smaller B. Specifications / U. S. Treasury Dept.; 1931. -- 147 p.; 13 in. + encl., addenda. -- 2 copies. -- c.1 lacks pp. 13-14; c.2 lacks changes of Oct. 1931. -- In box, 11 x 15 x 3 in.	
<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 06.1	<i>Storage code(s)</i> pl
<i>Project title</i>	Radio Corporation of America, Victor Division: new tube manufacturing building	
<i>Location</i>	Marion, Grant Co., IN	
<i>Authorship, year</i>	Sollitt Construction Co., job 49-530, estimates 3327, 3362; Oscar R. Knab, architect; 1949	
<i>Records</i>	>> Working dwgs. / Sollitt Construction Co.; 1949. -- 29 sheets: pencil on trace; 35 x 50 in. or smaller	

<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 06.2	<i>Storage code(s)</i>	d
<i>Project title</i>	Radio Corporation of America, Victor Division: new tube manufacturing building		
<i>Location</i>	Marion, Grant Co., IN		
<i>Authorship, year</i>	Sollitt Construction Co., job 49-530, estimates 3327, 3362; 1949		
<i>Records</i>	A. Structural details. -- 66 sheets: pencil on trace; 24 x 36 in. -- For Indiana Bridge Co. contract # 12354 B. Additional steel details. -- 13 sheets (sheets 101-113): blueprint; 24 x 36 in. C. Details of pipe gallery. -- 10 sheets (sheets RE1-RE10); pencil on trace; 24 x 36 in. D. Additional structural details. -- 19 sheets (1-18, SK-1): pencil on trace; 24 x 18 in. -- For Indiana Bridge Co. contract # 12454		
<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 07	<i>Storage code(s)</i>	d
<i>Project title</i>	Midwest Paper & Envelope Co., manufacturing plant and office building		
<i>Location</i>	State Rd. 18, Marion, Grant Co., IN		
<i>Authorship, year</i>	Sollitt Construction Co., job 51F977 (52-012); William E. Fett, engineer; 1953		
<i>Records</i>	>> Working dwgs. / Sollitt Construction Co.; 1953. -- 20 sheets: pencil on vellum; 24 x 36 in.		
<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 08	<i>Storage code(s)</i>	d
<i>Project title</i>	Madison County Government Center		
<i>Location</i>	Meridian St., Anderson, Madison Co., IN		
<i>Authorship, year</i>	Johnson, Ritchhart & Assoc., comm. 425-71; D. L. Collins, landscape architect; Sollitt Construction Co., contractor, job 72C-525; 1972		
<i>Records</i>	>> Working dwgs. / Johnson, Ritchhart & Assoc., D. L. Collins; 1972. -- 25 sheets: blue-line; 24 x 36 in.		
<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 09	<i>Storage code(s)</i>	d
<i>Project title</i>	Winding Waters Brethren Church: addition		
<i>Location</i>	County Rd. 4, Elkhart, Elkhart Co., IN		
<i>Authorship, year</i>	Sollitt Construction Co., job 77F-911; 1977		
<i>Records</i>	>> Working dwgs. / Sollitt Construction Co.; 1977. -- 24 sheets: ink on mylar, mylar sepia; 24 x 36 in.		
<i>Catalog no.</i>	30- 10	<i>Storage code(s)</i>	d
<i>Project title</i>	Westminster Village		
<i>Location</i>	Terre Haute, Vigo Co., IN		
<i>Authorship, year</i>	Smith, Voorhees, Jensen Assoc. (Des Moines, IA), project 6-7804; Sollitt Construction Co., contractor; 1978		
<i>Records</i>	>> Working dwgs. / Smith, Voorhees, Jensen Assoc.; 1978. -- 63 sheets: blue-line; 24 x 36 in.		

Controlled Access Headings:

- Architecture, American
- Architecture--Indiana--Elkhart
- Architecture--Indiana--Fort Wayne
- Architecture--Indiana--Goshen
- Architecture--Indiana--Marion
- Architecture--Indiana--Indianapolis
- Architecture--Indiana--Anderson
- Architecture--Indiana--Terre Haute
- Architecture, commercial
- Drawings, architectural (visual works)
- Elevation drawings
- School buildings
- Government Buildings
- Churches
- Banks
- Masonic Temple
- Industrial Buildings
- Buildings, commercial
- Buildings, religious
- Blueprints
- Buildings, school